

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA- 560**

**David Wilhelm House**

**17517 Falls Road**

**Upperco, Baltimore County**

**Ca. 1850**

**Private**

The David Wilhelm House is located just north of White House in Election District Five of Baltimore County. The district lies in the northeast corner of the county, near the Carroll County line, bordering Pennsylvania. David Wilhelm, whose family owned numerous properties in the area, constructed the house circa 1850, which appears on the Sidney's Atlas of Baltimore County the same year. By 1877, the property appears as the holdings of A. Wilhelm on Hopkins' Atlas of Baltimore County. By 1915, the dwelling was the property of M. Wilhelm. Later owners included H.J. Schnorbus and W.O. Miller.

Located at 17517 Falls Road, the David Wilhelm House sits back from the road with a winding driveway that extends east from the road into the secluded agricultural property. The three-and-a-half-story dwelling is banked into a hillside, resulting in the exposure of the basement story on the façade, or south elevation of the building. The five-bay-wide dwelling features a central-hall/single-pile plan. Full-width, two-story porches span the façade and the rear of the building. The five-course American bond dwelling sits on a random rubble stone masonry foundation and features a side gable roof clad in standing-seam metal. Two interior end corbeled brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge. A boxed, molded cornice spans the façade and rear elevations and terminates on the side elevations as gable-end returns. The central bay of the three primary stories is pronounced by greater ornamentation than the outer four bays. Of the four wood frame outbuildings located on the property, two date to the late 19th century, while the remaining ones date to the first half of the 20th century.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA 560

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic David Wilhelm House (preferred)  
other W.O. Miller House (current)

### 2. Location

street and number 17517 Falls Road not for publication  
city, town Upperco X- vicinity  
county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name William O. Miller, Trustee  
street and number 17517 Falls Road telephone Not Available  
city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155-9574

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 9764 folio 368  
city, town Towson tax map 20 tax parcel 12 tax ID number 0513055075

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory

1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA- 560

### Condition

☒ excellent    ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good        ☐ ruins  
☐ fair          ☐ altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Located at 17517 Falls Road, the 1850 David Wilhelm House sits back from the road with a winding driveway that extends east from the road into the secluded agricultural property. The three-and-a-half-story dwelling is banked into a hillside, resulting in the exposure of the basement story on the façade, or south elevation of the building. The five-bay-wide dwelling features a central-hall/single-pile plan. Full-width porches span the façade and the rear of the building. The five-course American bond building sits on a random rubble stone masonry foundation and features a side gable roof clad in standing-seam metal. Two interior end corbeled brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge. A boxed, molded cornice spans the façade and rear elevations and terminates on the side elevations as gable-end returns. The central bay of the three primary stories is pronounced by greater ornamentation than the outer four bays. The first story, raised above the foundation, is centrally pierced by a paneled single-leaf wood door with a fourteen-light transom and three-light sides over paneled dado. Four 6/6 windows flank the central bay of the second story, which is pierced by a tripartite 6/6 window with 2/2 sidelights. The third story also features a central 6/6 window with 2/2 sidelights flanked by four 6/6 windows. The basement features a central sash-and-paneled single-leaf wood door with a molded wood surround. Four 6/6 windows flank the entry. All façade openings feature molded wood surrounds and square-edged wood sills. The basement openings are surmounted by gauged brick lintels while those of the remaining three stories have brick jack arch lintels. The second story of the two-story porch, which is supported by gable-end extensions of the side foundation walls, is inaccessible from the exterior. The balustrade, which spans all three sides of the porch, is composed of a rounded handrail with square balusters and a wide, molded bottom rail. The main access to the first story is by the rear, or north elevation.

Of the four wood frame outbuildings located on the property, two date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the remaining ones date to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. All have gabled roofs clad in standing-seam metal. The circa 1860 bank barn sits on a random rubble stone foundation, is clad in flush vertical board siding, and features a side gable roof. The two-and-a-half-story structure is three bays wide. The circa 1860 chicken house also has a random rubble stone foundation. The one-and-a-half-story building is clad in board-and-batten siding and features a shed addition on the rear. The circa 1940 garage, clad in weatherboard, is one-and-a-half stories tall and sits on a brick pier foundation. Constructed circa 1940, the one-and-a-half-story drive-through corncrib sits on a stone pier foundation and is clad in German siding on one side with wood slats covering the enclosed crib.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA- 560

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1850

Architect/Builder Unknown

Construction dates 1850

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The David Wilhelm House is located just north of White House in Election District Five of Baltimore County. The district lies in the northeast corner of the county, near the Carroll County line, bordering Pennsylvania. David Wilhelm, whose family owned numerous properties in the area, constructed the house circa 1850, which appears on the Sidney's *Atlas of Baltimore County* the same year. By 1877, the property appears as the holdings of A. Wilhelm on Hopkins' *Atlas of Baltimore County*. By 1915, the dwelling was the property of M. Wilhelm. Later owners included H.J. Schnorbus and W.O. Miller.

By 1877, the nearby prominent town of Mount Carmel was a thriving community. Parts of the surrounding areas were agricultural in nature, with an emphasis on the production of wheat, corn, oats, and rye. Descendants of the area's original settlers, including the Gorsuchs, Bensons, Armacosts and Fowbles owned many of the surrounding farms. Additionally, limestone was abundant in the district, as was the presence of numerous saw and gristmills, which employed much of the population. The area included a number of schools and churches.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA- 560

*Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*,. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

*Map of Baltimore County*. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

Maryland Historical Trust Inventory

Scharf, Thomas J. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men*. Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.

Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .5 acres

Acreage of historical setting

Quadrangle name Hampstead

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its 1850 construction, the David Wilhelm House has been associated with the 135 acres known as parcel 12 of map 20, located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	April 11, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

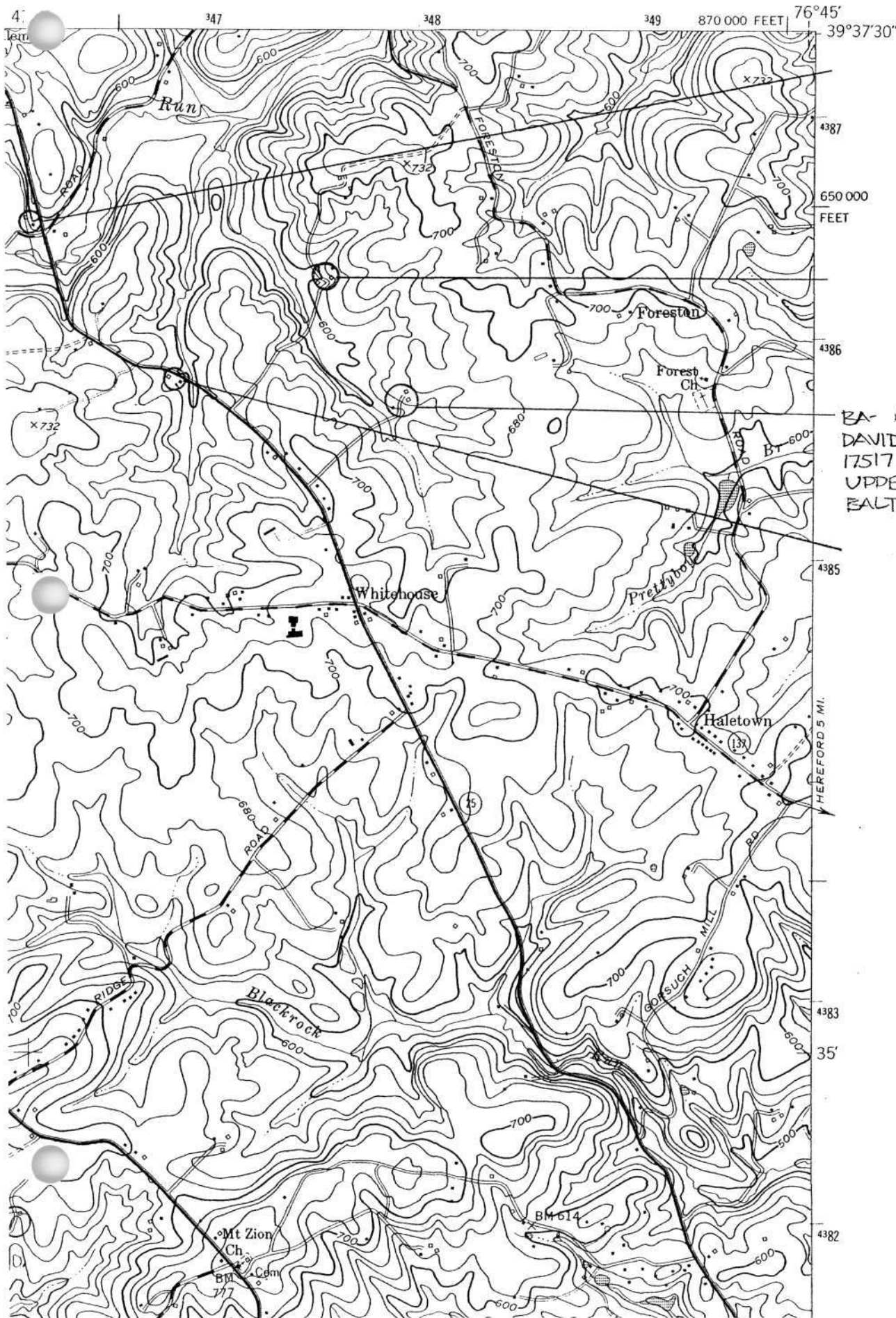
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



HAMPSTEAD QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

5663 11 NW  
(NEW FREEDOM)



BA 560  
DAVID WILHELM HOUSE  
17517 FALLS ROAD  
UPPERCO  
BALTIMORE COUNTY



BA-560

DAVID WILHELM HOUSE

17517 FALLS ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

HOUSE, SOUTHEAST CORNER, LOOKING NORTHWEST





BAT 560

DAVID WILHELM HOUSE

17517 FALLS ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

HOUSE, NORTHEAST CORNER, LOOKING SOUTHWEST



BA-560

DAVID WILHELM HOUSE

17517 FALLS ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

HOUSE, SOUTHWEST CORNER, LOOKING NORTHEAST



BA-560

DAVID WILHELM HOUSE

17517 FALLS ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS, LOOKING NORTHEAST





BA-1560

DAVID WILHELM HOUSE

17517 FALLS ROAD, UPPERCO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD SHPO

SPRINGHOUSE, LOOKING, SOUTHEAST

BA-560

**W.O. MILLER HOUSE** - 1850 - 17517 Falls Road, east side, entrance 0.35 mile north of Mt. Carmel Road, White House vicinity. A datestone shows "David Wilhelm 1850." David Wilhelm built this important house from brick burned on the premises. Four stories including a level with eyebrow windows; this is a bank house, and the side where the ground rises (the south) is three stories, also with eyebrow windows. Porches on second floor level off the living room on south side. Entrance porch on north side. Tin gable roof; two inside end-chimneys; stone foundation. Excellent condition. Very large farm house. H.J. Schnorbus sold this house to W.O. Miller in 1946.